



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Valley Forge National
Historical Park

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Valley Forge National Historical Park - News Release

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PECO Lights The Way With Lead Gift To Friends of Valley Forge Park

VALLEY FORGE, PA - 232 years ago this week, the Continental Army arrived at Valley Forge for their winter encampment. Washington and his army would be amazed to find that not only does the site remain, but so do many of the important papers documenting their experiences and sacrifices. PECO is partnering with the Friends of Valley Forge to assist in matching a grant of \$62,000 made to the National Park Service to preserve 42 18th century documents and manuscripts of exceptional national significance. PECO has generously contributed \$15,000 as the lead gift in this campaign to make sure these exceptional records of our past are available now and into the future.

On Saturday, December 19th from 6-8 p.m., a sampling of these documents will be on display as part of the annual March In ceremonies at the park. The National Park Service received a Save America's Treasures grant to conserve this collection as well as have the items digitized and made available to the public via the web. PECO's contribution to preserving these important pieces of our shared heritage will help advance the public education mission of both the park and the Friends of Valley Forge Park. "The documents and artifacts residing at Valley Forge bear witness to our heritage as a nation and a democracy. Equally as important, they remind us of the sacrifices that were endured here in order that future generations could live as a free people. We cannot thank PECO enough for its leadership and for its commitment to the legacy of Valley Forge," stated FOVFP Chairman, Don Naimoli.

The Save America's Treasures program is one of the largest and most successful grant programs for the protection of our nation's endangered and irreplaceable cultural heritage. Grants are available for nationally significant intellectual and cultural artifacts and historic structures and sites. In addition to the grant awarded for the Valley Forge project, Eastern State Penitentiary, the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the USS Becuna were Philadelphia area SAT recipients in the last year.

About Valley Forge National Historical Park

Valley Forge National Historical Park educates present and future generations of Americans about one of the most defining events in our nation's history by preserving the natural and cultural resources that commemorate the encampment of the Continental Army at Valley Forge in 1777-78. To learn more visit www.nps.gov/vafo.

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